

## II. Amendments to the Claims

Please amended the claims as follows with the following clean versions of the claims in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121; marked-up versions of the claims are presented in the following section.

### Clean version of amended claims:

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1. (Amended) An horological device comprising:

10 a time cell, wherein the time cell has a substantially discharged state before a programming operation and has a controlled discharge state after the programming operation, and wherein the time cell transitions after the programming operation from the controlled discharge state to the

15 substantially discharged state within a predetermined time period after the programming operation; and

reading means for reading a state of the time cell using conductive leads connected to the time cell.

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4. (Amended) A method for measuring time in an horological device, the method comprising:

discharging a stored electrostatic charge in a time cell in the horological device, wherein the time cell has a substantially discharged state before a programming operation and has a controlled discharge state after the programming operation, and wherein the time cell transitions after the programming operation from the controlled discharge state to the substantially discharged state within a predetermined time period after the programming operation; and

reading a state of the time cell using conductive leads connected to the time cell.

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26. (Amended) A reading device comprising:

coupling means for coupling, to the reading device, an article of manufacture, wherein the article of manufacture comprises a binary time cell and conductive leads connected to the binary time cell; and

reading means for reading the article of manufacture.

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Marked-up version of the amended claims--additions are shown with double-underlines and deletions are shown with strike-throughs.

5        1.     (Amended)        An horological device comprising:

          a time cell, wherein the time cell has a substantially discharged state before a programming operation and has a controlled discharge state after the programming operation, and wherein the time cell transitions after the programming  
10        operation from the controlled discharge state to the substantially discharged state within a predetermined time period after the programming operation; and

          reading means for reading a state of the time cell using  
15        conductive leads connected to the time cell.

15        4.     (Amended)        A method for measuring time in an horological device, the method comprising:

          discharging a stored electrostatic charge in a time cell in the horological device, wherein the time cell has a  
20        substantially discharged state before a programming operation and has a controlled discharge state after the programming operation, and wherein the time cell transitions after the programming operation from the controlled discharge state to the substantially discharged state within a predetermined time  
25        period after the programming operation; and

          reading a state of the time cell using conductive leads  
          connected to the time cell.

26. (Amended) A reading device comprising:

coupling means for coupling, to the reading device, an article of manufacture, wherein the article of manufacture comprises a binary time cell and conductive leads connected to the binary time cell; and

reading means for reading the article of manufacture.